



Background Vaccine-Preventable Disease

Infectious Disease	How can it hurt you?	How can you contract it?	Is it preventable through immunization?
diphtheria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> causes breathing problems, heart failure, nerve damage and death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> spread through the air by persons sneezing or coughing and by direct skin-to-skin contact 	yes
tetanus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> causes painful muscle spasms all over the body that can affect breathing and lead to death known as "lockjaw" because the spasms clench the jaw muscles making it impossible to swallow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> bacteria mostly found in the soil or dust enter the skin through a cut or scrape a previous infection does not produce immunity 	yes
pertussis (whooping cough)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> causes uncontrollable coughing, severe choking, difficulty breathing, pneumonia, seizures and death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> bacteria are easily spread by coughing, sneezing or close face-to-face contact 	yes
polio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> this virus damages the central nervous system's motor neurons leading to paralysis and death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> spread by eating food or drinking water contaminated with the stool of an infected person 	yes
Haemophilus influenzae type b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> this bacteria may cause infection of the lining covering the brain (meningitis) leading to deafness and brain damage can infect the blood (septicemia) can infect the epiglottis causing life-threatening airway obstruction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> spread by coughing, sneezing or close face-to-face contact most commonly infects children under five years of age 	yes
rotavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> causes profuse, watery diarrhea resulting in severe dehydration in infants and young children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rotavirus is found in the feces of an infected person and is spread easily by hand-to-mouth (fecal-oral route) rotavirus can survive on unwashed hands for about four hours 	
measles (also known as Red Measles or Rubeola)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> this virus can cause a rash, ear infections, pneumonia, brain infections or death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> highly contagious respiratory droplets are very easily spread between people through the air and remain in the air up to two hours after an infected person has left the room 	yes
mumps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a viral infection causing swelling of the salivary glands around the jaw and cheeks, painful testicular swelling, encephalitis (acute brain inflammation) and deafness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> easily spread through the air by sneezing and coughing or by direct contact with infected saliva 	yes
rubella (also known as German measles)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> this viral infection causes things such as fever, rash, sore throat and swollen glands in pregnancy it lead to miscarriage, stillbirth or birth defects such as deafness, cataracts, heart defects, and brain damage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> easily spread through the air by sneezing and coughing 	yes
varicella (chickenpox)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> itchy, red spots become fluid-filled blisters before crusting over can lead to pneumonia, severe skin infections (including flesh-eating disease), blood infections and death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> germs from the throat and scratched skin lesions easily spread through the air can also be spread through contact with the fluid from chickenpox blisters 	yes

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meningococcus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> an infection of the membrane lining the brain and spinal cord or of the blood (septicemia) that can lead to life-threatening complications, such as brain damage, deafness, learning disabilities and death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> bacteria are spread from one person to another by coughing, sneezing close face-to-face contact (e.g., kissing) or sharing items such as water bottles, eating utensils or musical instruments 	yes
Streptococcal pneumonia (also known as pneumococcus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> can cause serious and life-threatening infections of the lungs (such as pneumonia), the lining that covers the brain (meningitis) and the blood (bacteremia) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> spread from one person to another by coughing, sneezing, through saliva, and close face-to-face contact many people carry the bacteria in their throat or nose without getting sick 	yes
hepatitis B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a viral infection of the liver that can cause permanent scarring and damage (cirrhosis), liver cancer and death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the virus is found in the body fluids of infected persons and spread through unprotected sex, sharing personal items (razors, toothbrushes, etc.), reusing and/or sharing equipment (for tattooing, piercings, acupuncture, needles/equipment used to inject drugs), from an infected mother to her baby during pregnancy, etc. 	yes
human papillomavirus vaccine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a common virus that can lead to cancer of the vulva, vagina or cervix in women and genital warts in men and women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> spread by close contact during sexual activity with someone who has the infection most do not show any signs or symptoms and can pass the virus on to others without knowing it 	yes; prevents two major common strains that cause cancer and two strains that cause warts
seasonal influenza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> this respiratory illness causes fever, chills, cough, severe muscle aches, headache, fatigue and runny nose can lead to pneumonia and death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> spreads quickly from person to person by coughing, sneezing, shaking hands, touching something that is contaminated, etc. 	yes